

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes _____
no X

Property Name: Hen Coop Farm Inventory Number: SM-612
Address: 49780 Cornfield Harbor Road City: Scotland Zip Code: 20687
County: Saint Marys USGS Topographic Map: Point Lookout
Owner: MD Department of Natural Resources Is the property being evaluated a district? ____ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 61 Tax Map Number: 73 Tax Account ID Number: 01011588
Project: Wetland Mitigation Site for MD 5 Camp Ground Road Agency: State Highway Administration
Site visit by MHT staff: X no ____ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property is located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district ____ yes Eligible district ____ yes Name of District: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ____ yes ____ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____ yes X no

Criteria: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G ____ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Hen Coop Farm contains a house and several dilapidated outbuildings. The house is in such disrepair and overgrown with vegetation there is little integrity remaining. The house is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to a lack of original building materials and lack of integrity.

Prepared by: Becky Kermes Date Prepared: 09/02/2002

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ Eligibility not recommended X
Criteria: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G ____ None

MHT Comments

Andrew Lewis ✓
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

B. Kermes
Reviewer, NR Program

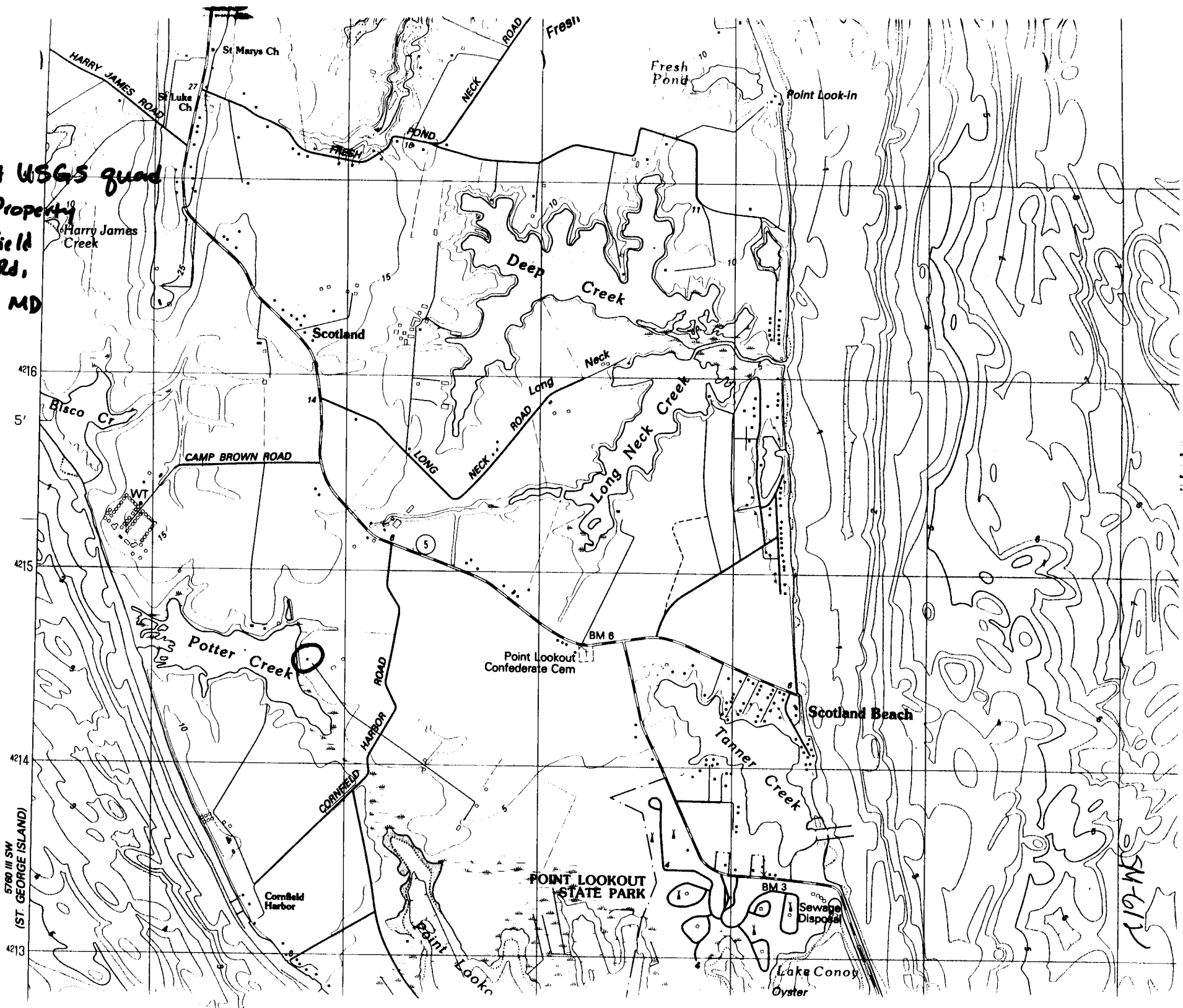
1/29/03
Date

2/27/03
Date

200204352

Pt Lookout USGS quad
Jacobs Property
off Cornfield
Harbor Rd,
Scotland, MD

SM-612



SM-612



SM-612

Hen Coop Farm

Supplies

Reames Road

5-20-2

11, 3-10

11, 3-10

11, 3-10

11, 3-10

11, 3-10

1 - 3



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11-11-12

Hen Coop Farm

5 2012

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Capsule Summary
SM-612
Hen Coop Farm
Scotland Vicinity
Public

1800-1825, early-mid 20th century

Very often, alterations to houses successfully obscure their original historical appearance. The house at Hen Coop Farm is no exception. Originally constructed between 1800-1825 near the head of Potter's Creek in Scotland, Maryland, this dwelling underwent significant changes in the early to mid-twentieth century. Architectural evidence, namely the main block's west chimney stack, relates the house's early date. The rest of the original house was summarily dismantled with a new, two story, three part, frame house erected in its place. Reusing several of the original beams, this new residence was used to house tenants of Hen Coop Farm until the 1960s or 1970s.

The original house was probably constructed by Walter Langley sometime after he acquired the property in 1802. This one or one-and-a-half story, frame dwelling was constructed of pit sawn and hewn timbers and featured at least one, exterior end, brick chimney. Evidence for architectural embellishment has not survived, but the house evidently served as the family seat for several decades as a nearby family cemetery contains several members of the Langley and related Biscoe family. Walter Langley's heirs acquired the property shortly after his death in 1845 and eventually sold their interests to Walter B. Langley. By the late-nineteenth century, Hen Coop Farm was no longer the home farm for the Langley family for after 1898 no more members of the family were buried at the nearby cemetery (See SM-613, Hen Coop Farm Cemetery) and the will of Walter B. Langley indicated he lived at Bacon's Point. As a result, tenants probably lived on the property. The dwelling remained a tenant house until the 1960s and 1970s. In 1898, Walter B. Langley died passing on the property to Laurel R. and Leila Langley. By 1913, the property passed from the Langley family ownership. Today, the house remains vacant and the surrounding property is owned by the State of Maryland and overseen by its Department of Natural Resources.

SM-612, Hencoop Farm
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme:

Architecture
Agricultural

Resource Type

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Rural

Historic Function and Use:

Residence

Known Design Source:

None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hencoop Farm (pref.), Part of Scotland

and/or common

2. Location

0.5 of a mile west of the intersection of Cornfield Harbor Rd. & Maryland Rt. 5, 49780 Cornfield Harbor Rd.
street & number ☐ not for publication

city, town Scotland ☒ vicinity of congressional district 1

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM-73, G-21, P-61

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name State of Maryland, Dept. of Natural Resources, Attn: Sally A. Lowe, Counsel

street & number 300 W. Preston Street, Room 601 telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Md 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber EWA 679

street & number folio 391

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-612

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 4

The house at Hen Coop Farm is strategically situated near the head of Potter's Creek in the Scotland vicinity of St. Mary's County, Maryland. Approached via a 0.2 mile dirt farm lane which extends northwest from Cornfield Harbor Road, the house is oriented on an east/west axis. Cultivated fields, marsh, and woods characterizes much of the surrounding 482 acre property. Contributing resources include a family cemetery which lies south of the house, a mid-twentieth century tobacco house and stripping shed, a corn crib, an equipment shed, and a storage shed. Since the property has been purchased by the state in 1992, the house and most of the outbuildings are no longer used and are rapidly falling into disrepair.

The Hen Coop Farm house is a modestly decorated, two story, three bay, two room, frame dwelling with a one-story gable end kitchen wing and a rear two-story ell. Initially constructed in the early-nineteenth century, the entire dwelling was substantially remodeled in the early to mid-twentieth century. Reusing timber as well as a brick chimney from the previous one story dwelling, the entire dwelling was transformed to its present three-part appearance. The house presently rests on brick piers and features a frame that consists of a circular sawn members along with reused pit sawn beams. The exterior is sheathed with vertical plank nailers covered with faux-brick asbestos siding. The cornice is enclosed and the gable roof of the main block is covered with cedar shingles while asphalt shingles are used on the rear ell and gable end wing.

The primary or south elevation, consisting of the main block and kitchen wing, faces much of the farm and not Potter's Creek. The main block's fenestration is marked by a centrally placed door flanked on either side by a six-over-six, double-hung sash window. The door is shaded by a deteriorating porch with an asphalt shingle roof. The second floor is pierced by three, six-over-six windows -- most of which have been broken out. The one story kitchen wing is pierced by a door and two-over-two window.

The east elevation, consists of the main block's gable end and the rear ell's side. The main block exhibits a rebuilt chimney constructed of mid-twentieth century brick flanked on either side by a two-over-two window. The second floor does not feature any openings. The ell is pierced on the first and second floors by now broken out two-over-two windows.

The north elevation, which faces Potter's Creek, consists of the ell's gable end, the rear of the main block, and the rear of the kitchen. The main block is pierced by two, six-over-six windows on the first and second floors. The ell, meanwhile, exhibits a window on the first and second floors -- probably two-over-two sash which have been broken out. The wing features two, two-over-two windows.

The west elevation is composed of the rear ell's side, and the gable ends of the kitchen wing and main block. The first floor of the rear ell features a door while the second floor features a two-over-two window. The kitchen is pierced by a door and two-over-two window on the first floor and a boarded over window on the second floor. The main block's gable end does not exhibit any openings, but does exhibit clapboard siding. The most diagnostic feature of the early dwelling is located at the juncture of the kitchen wing and main block. Here, an exterior end

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-612

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Very often, alterations to houses obscure their original historical appearance. The house at Hen Coop Farm is no exception. Originally constructed in the early-nineteenth century near the head of Potter's Creek near Scotland, Maryland, this dwelling underwent significant changes in the early to mid-twentieth century. Architectural evidence, namely the main block's west chimney stack, relates the house's early date. The rest of the original house was summarily dismantled with a new, two story, three part, frame house erected in its place. Reusing several of the original beams, this new house was used to house tenants of Hen Coop Farm until the 1960s or 1970s.

The original house was probably constructed by Walter Langley sometime after he acquired the property in 1802. This one or one-and-a-half story, frame dwelling was constructed of pit sawn and hewn timbers and featured at least one, exterior end, brick chimney. Evidence for architectural embellishment has not survived, but the house evidently served as the family seat for several decades as a nearby family cemetery attests. Walter Langley's heirs acquired the property shortly after his death in 1845 and eventually sold their interests to Walter B. Langley. By the late-nineteenth century, Hen Coop Farm was no longer the home farm for the Langley family for after 1898 no more members of the family were buried at the nearby cemetery (See SM-613, Hen Coop Farm Cemetery) and the will of Walter B. Langley indicated he lived at Bacon's Point Plantation. As a result, the tenants probably lived in the house. The dwelling remained a tenant house until the 1960s and 1970s. In 1898, Walter B. Langley died passing on the property to Laurel R. and Leila Langley. By 1913, the property passed from the Langley family ownership. Today, the house remains vacant and the surrounding property is owned by the State of Maryland and overseen by its Department of Natural Resources.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-612

Biscoe Family File. St. Mary's County Historical Society.

H. Chandlee Forman, Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens (New York: Bonanza Books, 1956), 111-113,
Regina Combs Hammett, "Private Cemeteries in the First Election District of St. Mary's County, Maryland" in
Chronicles of St. Mary's, Vol. 34, No. 1, January 1986.

139

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acres around houseQuadrangle name Point Lookout, MdQuadrangle scale 1: 24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate 4-27-98street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by
an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated
Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and
record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of
individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

SM-612, Hen Coop Farm
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

chimney constructed of early brick rises to just below the roof line of the main block. This large stack exhibits later, mid-twentieth century brick which allows the flue to extend just beyond the roof line. Below this modern brick, however, the older stack displays a space between two sets of corbelling -- a space normally used for decorative plaster necking. Due to the significant nature of the interior alterations, an analysis of the stack's brick bond could not be conducted.

The interior of the main block consists of two rooms separated by a enclosed, narrow single-run stair to the second floor. The two first floor rooms are plastered using circular sawn lathe attached to the frame with wire nails. The door and window surrounds feature plain corner blocks and modest trim. The eastern most room exhibits reused, pit-sawn floor joists accompanied by thin nailers for the plaster lathe. The ell and kitchen each consist of one room. Curiously, the kitchen has a large enclosed space where the original brick chimney is located. The second floor could not be investigated at the time of the visit due to nesting buzzards, but holes in the first floor ceiling reveal that the rooms are entirely sheathed with thin beaded matchstick.

The property also contains a circular sawn frame, axial plan tobacco barn with an accompanying stripping shed which is located about one hundred yards east of the main house. The gable end entry barn rests on a poured concrete pier foundation and is sheathed with vertical board siding attached to the braced circular sawn frame with wire nails. The roof is covered with cedar shingles. The interior consists of ten, approximately six foot rooms. Five sets of tiers, including two sets of rafter ties, form the main supports for the hanging of tobacco. The center aisle currently lies below the two side aisles which are currently raised above the dirt floor for hay storage.

To the north of the tobacco barn is another farm lane that leads to three more outbuildings -- a corn crib, equipment shed, and a storage shed. All three buildings feature concrete pier foundations and raised seam metal roofs. The corn crib features slatted sides that bow out as the wall rises. The equipment shed features three bays. The storage shed was not readily accessibly due to overgrowth but was constructed of circular sawn boards attached to the frame with wire nails. Just to the north of the house are a pair of domestic outbuildings. Unfortunately, due to substantial deterioration their exact functions could not be determined, but they appear to served as meathouse and storage shed.

SM-612, Hen Coop Farm
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber EWA 679, Folio 391

Grantee: State of Maryland - Department of Natural Resources

Grantor: John J. B. Jacobs, II, and W. Shepherdson Abell, executors for J. Bay Jacobs

Date: April 29, 1992

Notes: The property is composed of two parcels. Parcel A contains 422.742 acres and parcel B contains 59.584 acres. Parcel B is where the house and site is located. Eva H. Jacobs died on January 12, 1979 leaving the remainder of the estate with J. Bay Jacobs who died on March 3, 1988. Called "Part of Scotland" but more commonly called "Hen Coop," the entire tract was purchased for \$710,000.

Reference: Liber CBG 23, Folio 398

Grantee: J. Bay Jacobs and Eva H. Jacobs

Grantor:

Date: April 15, 1949

Notes: Nicholas S. and Eleanor Kimmel Hall were foreclosed upon and the property was sold at public auction on the steps of Leonardtown Courthouse.

Reference: Liber CBG 13, Folio 519

Grantee: Nicholas S. and Eleanor Kimmel Hall

Grantor: Margaret Gebhart

Date: September 10, 1942

Notes: The property is listed as containing 436 acres. An exception is made, however, for the burial ground and an easement for ingress and egress is allowed.

Reference: Liber CBG 12, Folio 273

Grantee: Walter A. and Laura Gebhart

Grantor: James and Mary L. Thomas executors for T. Rowland Thomas

Date: August 28, 1940

Notes: The deed describes the property as "partly on Pt. Lookout Creek and partly on Potter's Creek and containing 436 acres.

Reference: Liber JMM 3, Folio 397

Grantee: Walter A. and Laura Gebhart

Grantor: James Thomas and Mary L. Thomas, executors for T. Rowland Thomas

Date: December 5, 1925

Notes: The property is purchased for \$10,000. The deed refers to a plat made by surveyor Charles A. Heard on March 29, 1909. It also makes a specific provision of ingress and egress for Laurel R. and Leila Langley to visit and keep up the burial ground.

Reference: Liber JMM 2, Folio 459

Grantee: James and Mary L. Thomas

Grantor: John H. T. Briscoe, trustee

Date: November 13, 1924

Notes: As a result of Circuit Court case No. 1431 NE, the property is sold to the Thomas' after the Schechler family could not honor their mortgage.

SM-612, Hen Coop Farm
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber EBA 20, Folio 164
Grantee: Bessie Schechler
Grantor: T. Rowland and Mary L. Thomas
Date: August 12, 1921

Reference: Liber EBA 18, Folio 20
Grantee: T. Rowland Thomas
Grantor: Thomas C. B. and Agnes B. Howard
Date: March 8, 1919

Reference: Liber EBA 16, Folio 327
Grantee: Thomas C. B. and Agnes B. Howard
Grantor: St. Mary's Land and Seafood Co.
Date: March 17, 1917

Reference: Liber EBA 12, Folio 14
Grantee: St. Mary's Land and Seafood Co.
Grantor: Thomas C. B. and Agnes B. Howard
Date: August 7, 1913

Reference: Liber EBA 11, Folio 327
Grantee: Thomas C. B. and Agnes B. Howard
Grantor: Laurel R. and Leila Langley
Date: July 10, 1913
Notes: Thomas E. Fenwick is listed as a tenant on the property.

Reference: Will Record Liber PHD 1, Folio 57
Grantee: Laurel R. and Leila Langley
Grantor: Walter B. Langley
Date: October 18, 1898
Notes: Walter B. Langley devises much of his property to his daughters Laurel and Leila Langley which includes "Hen Coop."

Reference: Liber WTM 2, Folio 75
Grantee: Walter B. Langley
Grantor: William A. Langley, James R. Langley, Theodore N. Langley
Date: June 6, 1849
Notes: This deed notes that "Hen Coop" only contains 50 acres. Accompanying woodland, called "Scotland" contains only 20 acres.

Reference: Liber A 1, Folio 75
Grantee: Walter Langley
Grantor: William Langley
Date: February 8, 1802
Notes: William Langley conveys his property called "Hen Coop" to Walter Langley. The deed notes that William Langley presently dwells on the tract and that it is located on the E. side of Potter's Creek. Should Walter Langley die, the property would then fall to Susanna Langley, daughter of Walter, and to Britannia Langley, widow of James Langley.

SM-612. Hen Coop Farm
St. Mary's County
8.3 Significance

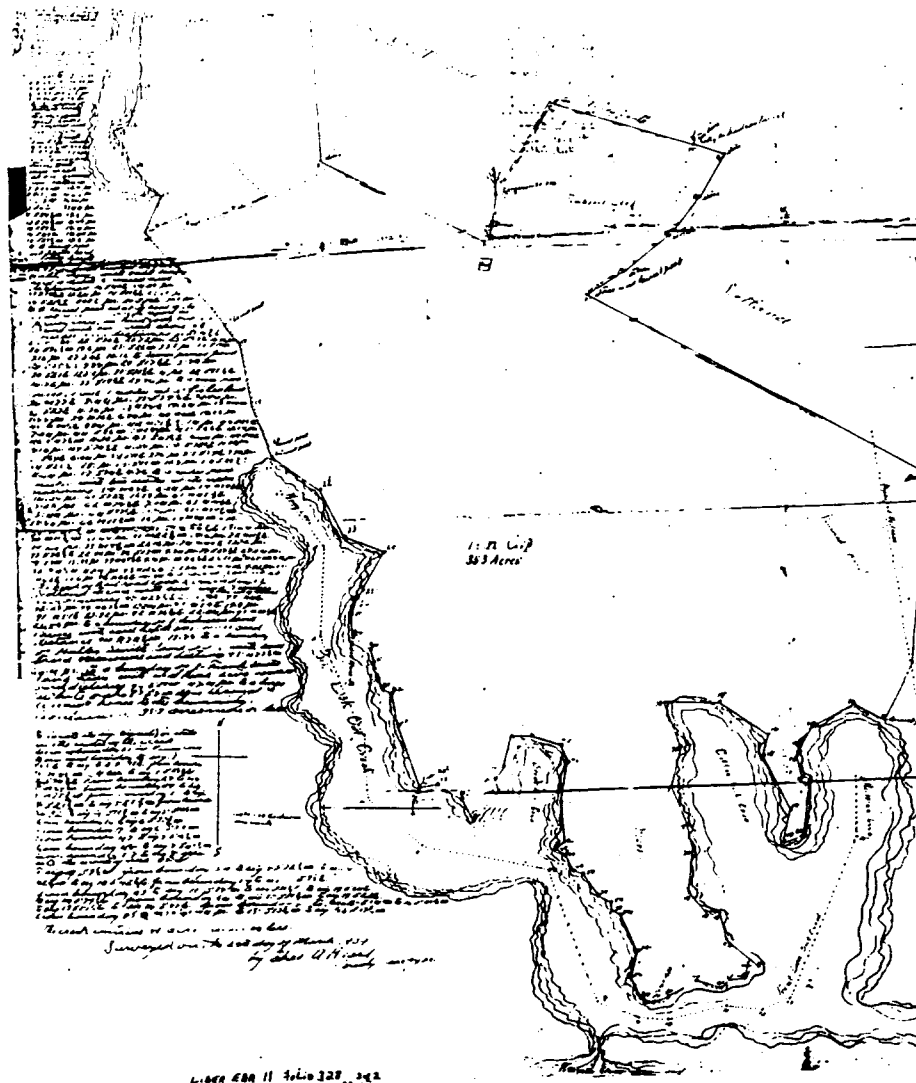
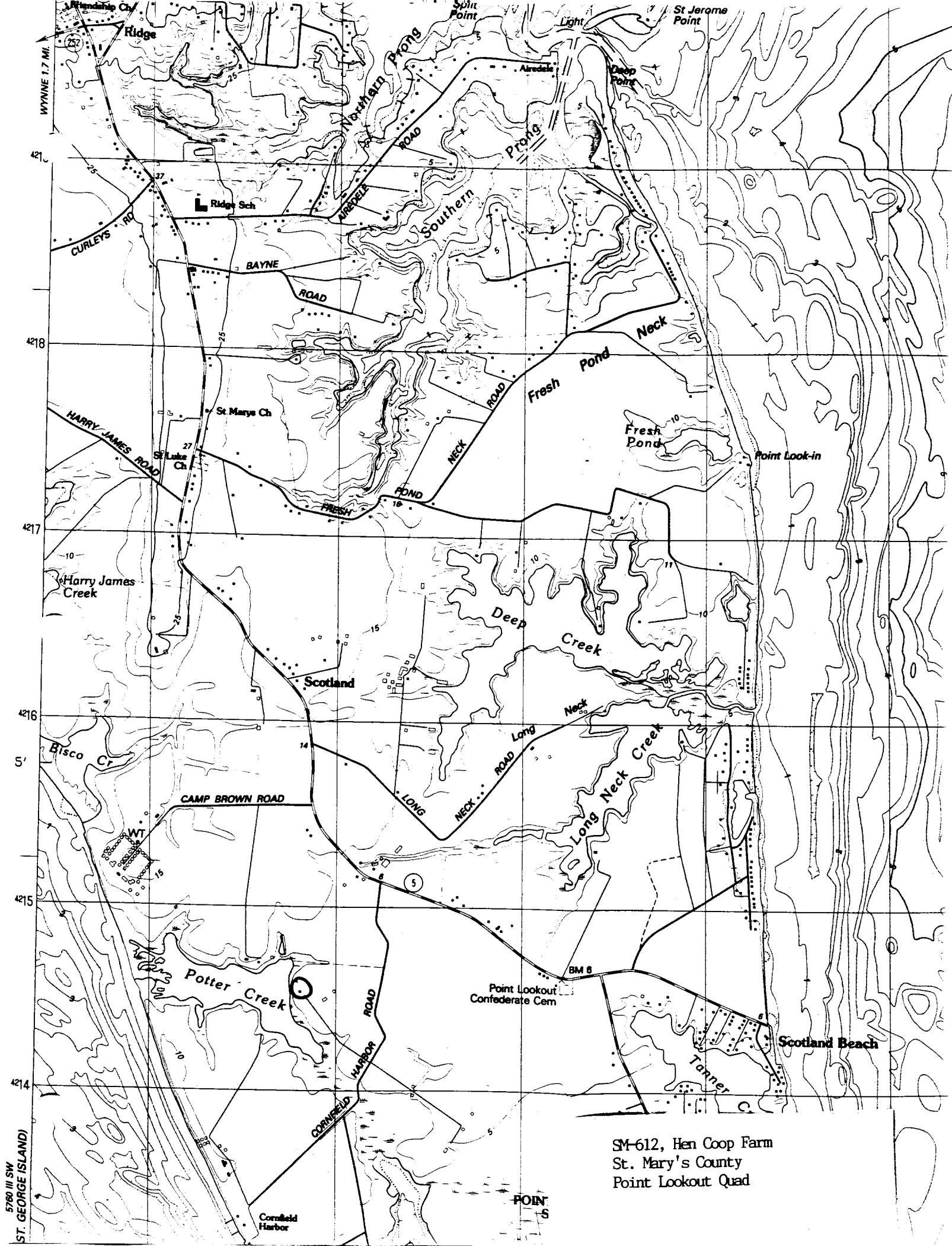


Figure 1. Plat of "Hen Coop" made by surveyor Charles A. Heard on March 29, 1909. The orange highlight represents the location of the present house. The yellow highlight notes the locations of barns and other houses that are no longer evident. The red highlight marks the shores of Pt. Lookout Creek to the south and Potter's Creek to the north. St. Mary's County Land Records, Plat Record Liber EBA 11, Folio 328.



SM-612, Hen Coop Farm
St. Mary's County
Point Lookout Quad





S.M.-1112

Hen Coop Farm

St. George County

Chas. Ranzetta

Apr 1 1962

81 1962

St. George County

May 3



SM-617

Don Long, Jr.

St. Mary's Cemetery

K. P. Ranetta

April/98

old SHPO

outbuildings. looking N

2 of 2